

Ok to enter.
NY
6/26/07

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. Introduction

This amendment is submitted in response to the final Office Action dated April 10, 2007.

Claim 9 has been canceled. Claims 1, 2, 7-8 and 10-16 were previously canceled. Accordingly, Claims 3-6 and 17-23 are now pending.

In the Office Action claims 3-6 and 17-23 were allowed. Accordingly, the application is now in condition for allowance since all the pending claims stand allowed.

In the final Office Action the Examiner rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,901,140.

Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's rejection of claim 9. However, claim 9 has been canceled to place the application in condition for allowance and thereby expedite the issuance of a patent from the present application. Applicant preserves the right to pursue the subject matter of claim 9 in a continuation application should Applicant decide to do so.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

If there are any outstanding issues which need to be resolved to place the application in condition for allowance the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative by phone to discuss and hopefully resolve said issues. To the extent necessary, a petition for extension of time under 37